

COMMITTEES' ROUND-UP

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BUNGE Weekly

Issue No. 046

Monday, March 11th, 2024 to Monday, March 18th, 2024

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House adopts Report of Budget and Appropriations Committee on 2024 BPS



POLICY RESOLUTIONS APPROVED BY THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

1. To minimize the gap between planned and actual costs of government policies, the National Treasury will develop guidelines for proper costing of programs and projects.
2. National Treasury has been directed to fast track payment of compensation for land acquired from individuals by the government for various projects
3. National Treasury provides guidelines on use of locally made materials in development of affordable houses to spur the economy and create the intended job opportunities to support the affordable housing programme.
4. To improve the ease of doing business, NPs have directed the Trade CS to develop a framework for establishment of one stop shop for all required certifications targeting manufacturers and exporters in the lines of the Huduma Centre model
5. To support smallholder farmers, Agriculture CS has been directed to develop a framework for last mile delivery of subsidized fertilizer, seeds and seedlings to farmers across the country in partnership with the county governments
6. The Sports PS in conjunction with Sports Kenya, is expected to submit to the National Assembly clear resource requirements for the stadiums and training grounds earmarked for upgrading and construction in preparation of African Nations Championships (CHAN) 2024 and Africa Cup of Nations (AFCON) 2027.

The National Assembly on Thursday, March 7, 2024 adopted the Report of the Budget and Appropriations Committee on the Budget Policy Statement (BPS) for the Financial Year 2024/2025

The adoption followed debate on the Report after the Chairperson of the Budget and Appropriations Committee, Hon. Ndindi Nyoro (Kiharu) apprised the House on the various financial and policy resolutions reached by the Committee, targeting key economic sectors.

Moving the Motion for the adoption of the Report, Hon. Nyoro noted that the BPS had capped National Government Budget at Kshs.2.6 trillion, with the County Government Equitable Share cap being Kshs.391.1 billion.

Further, the Report put the County Additional Allocations at Kshs.48.2 billion with the allocation to the Equalization Fund being Kshs.7.9 billion. The Committee also put the arrears to the Equalization Fund at Kshs.3.5 billion.

The Committee also resolved that consistent with the approved borrowing strategy in the Medium-Term Debt Management Strategy (MTDMS), the projected fiscal deficit be set at Kshs.703.9 billion. This is equivalent of 3.9 percent of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP); being the difference between total revenues and grants and total expenditure and net lending.

Hon. Nyoro told the House that the allocations had been informed by a broad

economic policy to boost primary production as well as to reinvigorate secondary and tertiary production for better economic prospects.

The Kiharu MP also noted that the Committee's Report had taken keen interest in creating incentives to boost food production as well as made provision of necessary incentives targeting cash crop farming.

"In this BPS we have allocated significant resources for the purchase of seed, inputs for both food and cash crops. Through this, we will be able to deal with food inflation as we seek to balance the demand and supply," said Hon. Nyoro.

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National Assembly wins petition on Affordable Housing Bill, 2023

The National Assembly undertook an effective and constitutionally compliant public participation on the Affordable Housing Bill, 2023, the High Court has ruled.

This verdict was delivered by Justice Mwanaisa Saida Shariff sitting at the High Court in Kisumu, in a petition where one Mr. Lawrence Omule Apiyo had sued the National Assembly alongside the office of the Attorney General and the Cabinet Secretary for Lands, Public Works, Housing and Urban Settlement regarding public participation on the Bill.

In her ruling, Justice Mwanaisa noted that the National Assembly had adduced sufficient evidence to prove that there had been public participation beyond the submission of written memoranda on the Bill.

The Petitioner had accused the National Assembly of restricting public participation on the Affordable Housing Bill, 2023 (National Assembly Bill No. 75 of 2023) to only submission of memoranda, which he argued was not inclusive.

“This court takes judicial notice of the fact that public hearings and consultations with stakeholders and experts concluded on 30th January 2024, and the Affordable Housing Bill has already undergone a second reading before the 3rd Respondent (National Assembly), with a vote being taken in favour,” ruled Justice Mwanaisa.

Mr. Apiyo, had filed the petition on 15th December, 2023; less than a week



after the Clerk of the National Assembly, Mr. Samuel Njoroge put out a notice inviting members of the public to submit written memoranda on the Bill, which had been committed by the House to the Departmental Committee on Housing, Urban Planning and Public Works as well as that on Finance and National Planning.

During the hearing of the petition, the National Assembly told the Court that submission of memoranda was just one of the methods that were to be employed in undertaking public participation.

Prior to the passage of the Bill in the House, the two Departmental Committees undertook physical public meetings with residents in at least 20 counties, and subsequently met several stakeholders on the emerging and fresh issues on the proposed law.

In the Judgement, Justice Mwanaisa concurred with the National Assembly that the said petition, therefore “breached the principle of ripeness as the petitioner presumed the 3rd respondent (National Assembly), intended to conduct public participation through one mode, that is through submission of memoranda when he filed this petition.”

“On the balance this petition is devoid of merit and the same is hereby dismissed,” ruled the Judge.

Justice Mwanaisa directed that each of the parties in the petition bear their own costs as this was a public interest matter.

East African Legislative Assembly returns to Nairobi, set to consider Bills to bolster integration



H.E. President, Dr. William Ruto (centre), Speaker of the National Assembly, Rt. Hon. (Dr.) Moses Wetang'ula, Speaker of the Senate, Rt. Hon. Amason Kingi, EALA Speaker, Rt. Hon. Joseph Ntakirutimana together with the EALA Members and other government officials pose for a group photo following after the opening of the 3rd Session of the 5th Assembly at the Senate Chamber

The Parliament of the Republic of Kenya is hosting the 3rd meeting of the 2nd Session of the 5th Assembly of the East African Legislative Assembly (EALA). The Regional body is making a return after a six-year hiatus, having held its last rotational plenary in Kenya in 2018.

The sittings were officially opened by President of Kenya H.E (Dr.) William Ruto on a Monday, March 4, 2024 at a ceremony attended by Speaker of the Regional Assembly, Rt. Hon. Joseph Ntakirutimana, Prime Cabinet Secretary and Minister of Foreign and Diaspora Affairs, Hon. Musalia Mudavadi, the East African Community Secretary-General Mr. Peter Mathuki, lawmakers from the regional legislature, and a host of members of the Council of Ministers including Kenya's Cabinet Secretary for East African Community, Arid and Semi-Arid Lands and Regional Development, Ms. Peninah Malonza. Among the key business the Assembly is set to consider, are six crucial Bills, four of which had been passed by the Assembly, but have been returned for reconsideration.

The Bills include the EAC Statistics Bureau Bill, 2017, the EAC Surveillance, Compliance and Enforcement Commission Bill, 2022, the EAC Financial Services Commission Bill, 2022 and the EAC Customs Management Bill, 2023. Others are the EAC Cultural Heritage Bill, 2022 and the EAC Pharmaceuticals Bill, both Private Members' Bills.

The Assembly will also consider a raft of Reports and Motions before undertaking some joint activities with the Parliament of Kenya. The activities are aimed at cementing cordial relations between the legislatures.

While in Kenya, the EALA Members are also set to engage in two main outreach activities. The Assembly's Women Caucus on Friday participated in the International Women's Day's celebrations in Embu County. In addition, the lawmakers held a stakeholders engagement with cross border traders at the Kenyatta International Convention Centre (KICC) The sittings will run from March 3, 2024 to March 20, 2024.



Parliamentary Service Commission assures Centre for Parliamentary Studies and Training of support

The Parliamentary Service Commission (PSC) has reiterated its commitment towards ensuring that Centre for Parliamentary Studies and Training (CPST) continues delivering quality programmes, as envisaged by the PSC policy guidelines and standards.



PSC Commissioners; Hon. Rachael Ameso (center), Hon. Mishi Mboko (6th from left), Deputy Clerk, Mrs. Serah Kioko (5th from left), and CPST Executive Director, Prof. Nyokabi Kamau (6th from right), pose for a photo with officers who graduated after completing a mandatory promotional course with CPST

Led by the Chairperson of the CPST Board, Commissioner, Hon. Rachael Ameso, the Commissioners made this assurance during the graduation ceremony of over 40 officers drawn from different departments within the Parliamentary Service, who undertook a mandatory promotional course in December last year. The course was administered by CPST. This is the second cohort to graduate since the introduction of the course.

“We have built a name for this institution nationally and internationally. As we now enter our 13th year, we are humbled by the successes we have achieved and have resolved to raise the bar even higher and have this amazing Centre scale the highest level of success. For this, we count on your continued support as staff alumni, and as stakeholders,” Commissioner Ameso said.

These sentiments on the importance of capacity building for staff were echoed by all the Commissioners present, with the Vice-Chairperson of PSC and member of the CPST Board, Commissioner, Hon. Joyce Korir, adding that the Board is keen on fast tracking the completion of the CPST Centre to ensure that officers have a conducive environment to study in. She also hinted that the institution could adopt a blended training mode; that would involve online and in-person training options, to help manage the training budget.

Commissioner, Hon. Patrick Makau stressed that well capacitated staff help deliver the vision and mission of an institution, adding that with CPST building the capacity of the officers, they will be expected to exploit the skills gained to add value to Parliament. He pointed out that as a Board; they’re ready to support the institution’s programs and projects, including the completion of the ongoing CPST construction project.

Commissioner Hon. Mishi Mboko thanked the Speaker of the National Assembly Hon. (Dr.) Moses Wetang’ula for the support he has offered the Centre so far. She emphasized the importance of the staff knowing the different areas of operations of Parliament, so as to ensure they effectively serve Parliament. She noted that CPST was firmly on the path of achieving its vision; that of growing into a regional training hub for legislatures.

The Executive Director, CPST, Prof. Nyokabi Kamau, stated that the institution is hoping to open up for training to other Parliaments across Africa, urging the Commissioners and the Board to keep supporting the Centre financially, so as to enable it to effectively execute its mandate.

Deputy Clerk of the National Assembly, Mrs. Serah Kioko, emphasized the need to assess the impact the training has had on the officers, based on their performance, moving forward.

Joint Committee holds preliminary meeting, sets framework for implementation of NADCO report



Chairperson, National Assembly Justice and Legal Affairs Committee, Hon. George Murugara (centre), Chairperson, Senate Standing Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights, Sen. Hillary Sigei (right) and Vice Chairperson, National Assembly Justice and Legal Affairs Committee, Hon. Mwangi Mutesi (left) addressing the media after the preliminary meeting of the Joint Committee on Thursday last week

The National Assembly Departmental Committee on Justice and Legal Affairs, chaired by Hon. George Murugara (Tharaka) and the Senate Standing Committee on Justice, Legal Affairs and Human Rights chaired by Sen Hillary Sigei (Bomet), on Thursday last week, had a preliminary meeting to agree on the framework on the implementation of the National Dialogue Committee (NADCO) Report which was referred to them after it was adopted by the two Houses.

According to the two Chairpersons, following the adoption of the report by the two Houses, the Speakers and Leaders of the Majority Party and Minority Party in both Houses deliberated on the modalities for implementing the recommendations of the Report and agreed to refer the proposals to amend the Constitution to the two Committees.

Four Bills will be introduced in each House. In the National Assembly the following Bills are expected to be introduced; the Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission (Amendment) Bill, 2024, the Ethics and Anti-Corruption Commission (Amendment) Bill, 2024, the Leader of Opposition Bill, 2024 and the National Government Coordination (Amendment) Bill, 2024.

In the Senate, the following Bills are expected to be introduced; the Elections Offences (Amendment) Bill, 2024, the Elections (Amendment) Bill, 2024, the Statutory Instruments (Amendment) Bill, 2024 and the Political Parties (Amendment) Bill, 2024.

The Joint Committee is also expected to consider any proposed amendments to the statute or enactment of new statutes that may be consequential to the proposed amendments to the Constitution and submit a report within 45 days to the Houses recommending the manner of actualizing the recommendations of the NADCO.

Committees' Round-up

Public Accounts Committee says there is need to increase funding for Auditor-General's office to enhance forensic audits



Chairperson, Public Accounts Committee (PAC), Hon. John Mbadi (left), Hon. Tindi Mwale (centre) and Hon. Mwengi Mutuse (right) during examination of the Auditor-General's Report for the Fiscal Year ending on June 30, 2022, on the financial accounts of

The Public Accounts Committee chaired by Hon. John Mbadi (nominated) has called for an increase in funding to the Office of the Auditor General to enable it operate as an independent and well equipped entity.

Hon. Mbadi said the office needed to be enhanced, stressing that it would facilitate efficient execution of the audit cycle and ensure ongoing and sustainable audit operations.

“For years, the Office has suffered from severe underfunding, despite its extensive mandate. It continues to seek support from Parliament and the National Treasury to enhance resources, bolster technical capacity, expand presence in counties, broaden audit scope, and motivate staff,” Hon. Mbadi said.

The Office of the Auditor-General (OAG) is an independent entity established under Article 229 of the Constitution of Kenya.

Its responsibilities encompass auditing and reporting annually on various entities, including the National and county governments, public funds and authorities, courts, commissions, legislative bodies, political parties funded from public coffers, public debt, and other entities financed by public funds.

Additionally, Article 229(6) mandates the Auditor-General to ascertain the lawful and effective utilization of public funds.

Hon. Mbadi urged his colleagues to support a legislative proposal before Parliament aimed at establishing a dedicated fund for financing the Office of the Auditor-General.

“This initiative is commendable, and I urge the House to allocate additional funds to the Office to facilitate more comprehensive forensic audits,” urged Hon. Mbadi.

He cited a just concluded special audit conducted by the Office of the Auditor-General, focusing on the utilization of funds under Article 223, particularly in areas such as fertilizer subsidies and sports stadiums, at the committee’s request.

“The quality of this audit is impressive and exemplifies the level of scrutiny we should strive for. However, such outcomes can only be achieved with a well-resourced Office of the Auditor-General,” he said.

Committee on Environment, Forestry and Mining meets Ndaragua MP over proposed Bill

Committee on Environment, Forestry and Mining led by Hon. David Gikaria (Nakuru Town East) on Thursday, March 7, 2024 met with Hon. George Gachagua (Ndaragua) regarding the proposed Environment Institute of Kenya Bill, 2023 that is currently before the Committee.

In his written submission to the Committee, Hon. Gachagua, who is an expert on environmental matters, took Members through the law he is proposing which is now at the pre-publication stage. He pointed out that the Bill is aimed at providing for registration and regulation of standards and practice by professionals within the environmental sector.

“Hon. Chairperson and Members, I know there are concerns on the mandate of the proposed Environment Institute of Kenya (EIK) Vis a Vis that of the National Environment Management Authority (NEMA). However, there are many aspects of environment not covered by NEMA, whose focus is majorly matters regulations,” he said.

According to Hon. Gachagua, the proposed Institute is set to be extensive with regards to regulating professionals in the space of environmental conservation and management.

Members encouraged Hon. Gachagua to re-look into some of the clauses in the Bill like those touching on, registration, licensing, membership, financial provisions and qualifications, in a bid to improve it.

“I want to encourage you to take positively the views of this Committee on this Bill and do what is necessary. Kenya is late in coming up with such laws which regulate the practice of environmental management and conservation. We are aware of NEMA’s challenges which affect the effective discharging of their mandate, and believe that such a professional body geared towards regulating this space will instill responsibility among players,” Hon. Joseph Amwar (Turkana Central) said.

Hon. Gikaria and the Vice Chairperson Hon. Charles Kamuren (Baringo South) commended Hon. Gachagua for his efforts, adding that he was doing a great service to the country.



Chairperson, Committee on Environment, Forestry and Mining, Hon. David Gikaria asking Hon. George Gachagua for clarification regarding the proposed Environment Institute of Kenya Bill, 2023

Decentralized Funds Accounts Committee investigates disappearance of water tanks in Bungoma County

The Decentralized Funds Accounts Committee, last week, met with Ms. Carolyne Wamyama who appeared before it to shed light on the alleged disappearance of 1,200 water tanks valued at Kshs.12 million from the premises of the Bungoma County Woman Representative’s office in 2017.

Speaking before the Committee chaired by Hon. Gideon Mulyungi (Mwingi Central), Ms. Wanyama told Members that her departure from the Bungoma MP’s office was riddled with bullying and threats aimed at her family. Despite the courts subsequently declaring her innocent of any wrongdoing in the questionable procurement of the missing tanks at a cost of Kshs.12 million, she is yet to secure any gainful employment as the matter tainted her image.

“When I was fired, the reasons why I left the office of the County Woman Representative were occasioned by volatile political activities in the office and its surrounding, posing a risk to me as a mother and my children,” she said.

Seeking clarity on how such a large number of water tanks could disappear from the office grounds without being noticed, Members asked the Chief Executive Officer (CEO), National Government Affirmative Action Fund (NGAAF), Mr. Roy Telewa to explain how since 2017 they are yet to locate the tanks.

“Why is the CEO not telling us where the tanks are? Stating that the officer before us today is not culpable without giving us any tangible solutions to the mess she was thrown into is not satisfactory. What measures has the CEO and his team put in place to ensure this does not happen again?” asked Hon. Mogaka.

In response, CEO Telewa acknowledged the challenges encountered in

handling the matter and advocated for a review of NGAAF’s operational and procurement protocols. He stressed the need for permanent and pensionable employment terms for NGAAF coordinators at the county level, saying it will instill confidence in the officers as they undertake their roles.



Chairperson, Decentralized Funds Account Committee, Hon. Gideon Mulyungi (left) and Vice Chairperson, Hon. Gertrude Mbeyu (right) listening to CEO, NGAAF, Mr. Roy Telewa as he explains a point

Committee on Delegated Legislations assured that cybercrime regulations will not harm small businesses

The Committee on Delegated Legislation Committee, chaired by Hon. Samuel Chepkonga (Ainabkoi) has received assurance from Principal Secretary (PS) for Interior, Dr. Raymond Omollo that the new cybercrime regulations won’t harm small businesses.

Dr. Omollo issued the reassurance while appearing before the Committee to shed light on the Computer Misuse and Cybercrime (Critical Information Infrastructure and Cybercrime Management) Regulations, 2024.

Hon. Chepkonga raised concerns about the regulations’ potential effect on small enterprises.

“Will small businesses and start-ups be safe?” he asked.

PS Omollo in response explained that the Ministry had crafted the regulations in a way that it will be easy for them to adjust to new technologies whenever



Chairperson, Committee on Delegated Legislation, Hon. Samuel Chepkonga, during a meeting with Interior PS, Dr. Raymond Omollo

and Microsoft.

The regulations among other things seek to establish a robust framework for detecting and responding to cyber threats and streamline reporting processes, with the establishment of dedicated cybercrime desks in every police station.

Additionally, they address the unregulated cryptocurrency issue and aim to deter cybercrimes, protecting Kenya’s digital assets.

a need arises.

“We have made it possible for small business operators to continue doing their work, without being worried on how the big multinationals are operating,” stated the PS.

He also told Members that the regulations had been subjected to adequate public participation, with the team visiting different parts of the country to collect views.

He added that they also benchmarked with developed nations including Israel, United States of America (USA), United Kingdom (UK), Australia and India, before coming up with regulations, and also had an engagement with Google

House adopts Report of Budget

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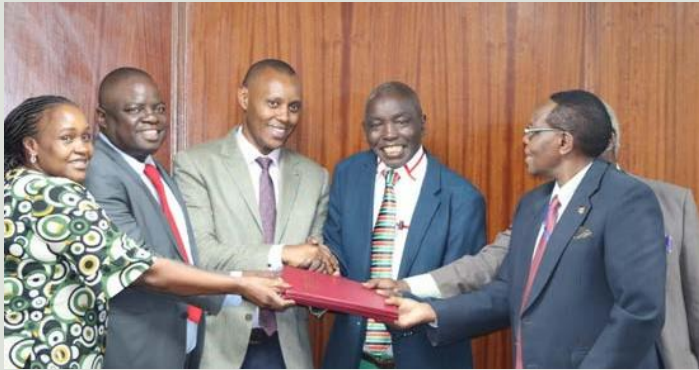
Hon. John Kiarie (Dagoretti South) who seconded the Motion told the House that the elaborate process preceding the BPS Report had demonstrated the incorruptible stature of the National Assembly in the critical Budget making process.

“We are a country that is serious about living within its own means, by not over-projecting on the revenue. This House has finally found its footing on budget-making away from previous attempts by external players to

hijack the process. We have truly taken our place in the budgeting process,” said Hon. Kiarie.

The BPS Report was preceded by in-depth deliberations within the Departmental Committees in regard to allocations to the respective Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs) under their oversight purview, with the Committee Chairs subsequently appearing before the Budget and Appropriations Committee to defend their MDA’s budgets.

Committee on Defence, Intelligence and Foreign Relations commences inquiry into alleged malpractices by British Army Training Unit in Kenya



A section of Members of the Departmental Committee on Defence, Intelligence and Foreign Relations led by Chairperson, Hon Nelson Koech (centre) pose for a photo with stakeholders after they appeared before the Committee to present their submission regarding an inquiry into the conduct of BATUK in Kenya

The Departmental Committee on Defence, Intelligence, and Foreign Relations chaired by Hon. Nelson Koech (Belgut), last week commenced an inquiry into alleged malpractices by the British Army Training Unit in Kenya (BATUK).

According to the Chairperson, Hon. Koech the inquiry will cover allegations of ethical breaches and human rights violations.

“The probe will cover alleged ethical breaches related to ethical misconduct, including corruption, fraud, discrimination, abuse of power, and allegations of human rights violations, including mistreatment, torture, unlawful detention, killings, or any other violations of internationally recognized human rights standards,” Hon. Koech said.

On day one of the inquiry, the Committee met stakeholders, including, Commissioner of the Kenya National Commission on Human Rights (KNCHR), Prof. Marion Mutugi, University of Nairobi lecturer, Dr. Isaiah Mwaniki, and Secretary of the Mau Mau Governing Council of Kenya, Mr. Wambugu Githagia.

KNCHR submitted 43 complaints dating back to 1975, highlighting issues such as land disputes, harm to civilians from unexploded ordnance, lack of compensation for victims, sexual violence, and environmental degradation.

Prof. Mutugi expressed concerns over the lack of accountability and access to justice.

“There is generally a lack of accountability and access to justice with no form of redress or adequate reparations being availed to the victims,” Prof Mutugi told the Committee.

Hon. Martha Wangari (Gilgil) sought to know the actions that KNCHR had taken beyond reporting the complaints.

“What have you done to support these communities, have you done civic education on the Rights of communities in the affected areas? Does the Community have an avenue to access your offices?”

The Commission acknowledged having two offices within affected communities. However, budget constraints and limitations of their mandate, specifically lacking enforcement powers, were cited as challenges.

Members of the Committee expressed dissatisfaction with KNCHR regarding the Defence Cooperation Agreement between Kenya and the UK, questioning why crucial information was not shared during the ratification process. Members raised concerns over delayed cases against BATUK and inadequate compensation for victims.

In his closing remarks, Hon. Koech reiterated the Committee’s commitment to conducting a thorough inquiry in alignment with its mandate on foreign relations. He assured he stakeholders of the Committee’s dedication to addressing concerns and protecting the interests of Kenyan citizens.

Committee on Health urged to propose changes to the law in order to decriminalize attempted suicide

The National Assembly Departmental Committee on Health led by Chairperson, Hon. (Dr.) Robert Pukose (Endebess) has been asked to change the law in order to decriminalize attempted suicide.

The Chief Executive Officer (CEO), Mathari National Teaching and Referral Hospital, Dr. Julius Ogato asked the Committee to propose changes to the law to repeal Section 226 of Kenya’s Penal Code, which currently imposes criminal liability on individuals who attempt suicide.

According to Dr. Ogato, individuals engaging in such acts are often grappling with mental illness and thus require medical intervention rather than punitive measures.

Committee was on a fact-finding mission to understand the challenges, and successes of the facility, as well as to ascertain its current status in admitting and treating patients with mental health issues.

Section 226 of Kenya’s penal code stipulates that any person attempting to take their own life is guilty of a misdemeanor and is subject to imprisonment of up to two years, a fine, or both, with the minimum age of prosecution set at eight years old.

Dr. Ogato explained that the law as currently constituted can push people with mental illness to the edge.

“Initially, people thought that a person contemplating suicide is abnormal, but that is not true. Just as diabetes results from a lack of insulin in the body, mental illness involves an imbalance of chemical transmitters in the brain. There is a biological basis for such thoughts. When someone exhibits these thoughts, they require empathy and much-needed support to access treatment,” Dr. Ogato.

He further said that individuals with suicidal thoughts require rescue, protection, and care, not incarceration.

In addition, the CEO proposed that by reclassifying attempted suicide as a mental disease rather than a criminal act, perceptions would shift, and people would understand that those with mental illness require assistance, not punishment.

According to the World Health Organization, approximately 700,000 individuals die by suicide annually, making it the second leading cause of death among individuals aged 15-29 years. It ranks among the top ten leading causes of death across all age groups.

Hon. (Dr.) Pukose said criminalizing suicide adds further suffering to individuals who are already in a vulnerable state.



Chairperson, Departmental Committee on Health, Hon. (Dr.) Robert Pukose (left) and Hon. Joshua Oron (right) following a presentation by the CEO, Mathari National Teaching and Referral Hospital, Dr. Julius Ogato

Quotes of The Week



“The success of this Government is largely hinged on the performance of the Public Service. As currently structured, the Public Service suffers from lethargy and paralysis on the basis of the fact that most of the senior positions in Government, ministries as well as parastatals, are held in acting capacities by people who hold the requisite experience, skills and qualifications but are unable to make firm decisions at crucial moments because they are serving in acting capacity. The best example is how this has hindered the success of the Ministry of Health, which is charged with the responsibility of delivering the Universal Health Coverage (UHC): a key pillar of the Kenya Kwanza Administration. The Director- General for Medical Services, one Dr. Amoth, has been serving in acting capacity for the last six years in that position.”
 Hon. Duncan Mathenge (Nyeri Town) contributing on the Public Service Commission (Amendment) Bill, on Wednesday, 28th February, 2024



“One, the issue of labour relationships in this country is very big and demanding that the issue of contacting an employee after the so-called working hours does not rank anywhere in the order of priority. For a teacher teaching in Mandera, it is not a priority to them that the deputy or the student calls or not. For the workers in Industrial Area, it is not a priority what time they can be contacted by the plant operator or plant manager in an industry. It is not a priority to an unemployed person. This is not a priority in labour relationship. To the underpaid person who is hanging on to the job that he has, this is not a priority. The priority is job security, improved working conditions, better pay and the ability to improve so that they can move to the next level. I would have wished that any amendment to the Employment Act were directed towards that line.”
 Hon. Wilberforce Oundo (Funyula) contributing on the Public Service Commission (Amendment) Bill, on Wednesday, 28th February, 2024



“It is very important for us as a country to respect the elderly and people who have served in the civil service for a long time. They have experience and what it takes to discharge their duties. However, we should ensure they support, mentor, and guide younger people to take over service in the civil service as they approach their retirement age, which should be fixed at a maximum of 60 years. We must guide, mentor, train, and expose younger people to the important experience to continue running different arms of Government.”
 Hon. Kaguchia John (Mukurweini) contributing on the Public Service Commission (Amendment) Bill, on Wednesday, 28th February, 2024



“I happen to be a member of the Departmental Committee on Labour. As we were going through the Bill, I felt like we had a number of loopholes. One, I feel it is going to promote laziness amongst employees. This is because when I am working and I know that by 5.00 p.m. I am supposed to leave, whether I have completed what I was supposed to do or not, my employer will not call me to ask about any other business until the following day in the morning at 8.00 a.m. when I resume duty.”
 Hon. Lillian Siyoi (Trans Nzoia County) contributing on the Employment (Amendment) Bill, on Thursday, 29th February, 2024

Committee on Sports and Culture urges Ministry to set up sports camp in every constituency

Committee on Sports and Culture last week urged the Ministry for Youth Affairs, Sports and Arts to establish sports camps in every constituency.

These remarks were made when Principal Secretary for Sports, Eng. Peter Tum appeared before the Committee to provide updates on the progress of Talanta Hela programme.

Chairperson of the Committee, Hon. Daniel Wanyama (Webuye West) said the establishment of sports camp in every constituency would serve as platforms to hone sporting skills amongst the youth.

“The vision of establishing sports camps in each constituency is a step in the right direction and has been met with enthusiasm by the youth. These facilities will serve as platforms for them to hone their sporting skills,” said Hon. Wanyama.

Hon. Wanyama’s statement came after Eng. Tum informed the Committee that the Ministry plans to initiate the establishment of 11 sports camps in selected constituencies.

Further, Eng. Tum told the Committee that each sports camp will require a budget of Kshs.50 million which would be financed through the Sports Fund.

The PS noted that the Talanta Hela Initiative had already utilized Kshs.532 million since its inception. He elaborated that these funds were utilized in organizing the Talanta Hela championship, which attracted teams from various counties and

for the training of 2,000 coaches across different disciplines and financing feasibility studies for the sports camps, among other programs.

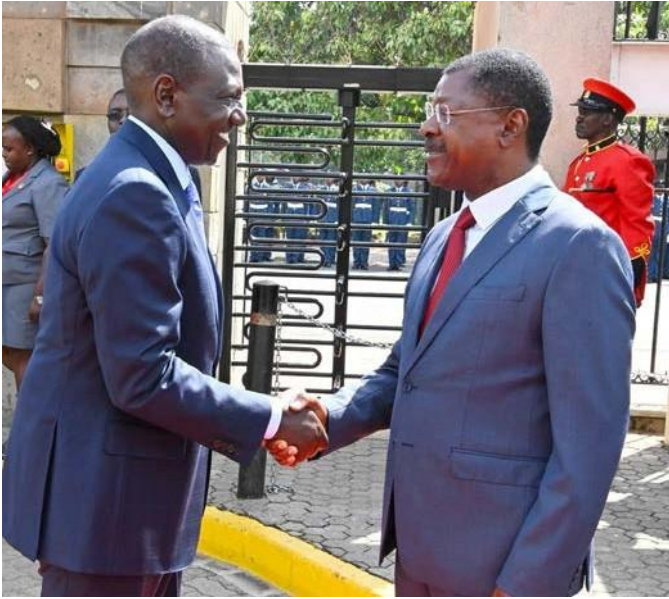
He added that the construction of the Talanta Sports City at Jamhuri Park grounds will be undertaken as a Public-Private Partnership programme.



Chairperson, Departmental Committee on Sports and Culture, Hon Daniel Wanyama chairing a meeting with officials from the Ministry of Youth Affairs, Sports and Arts led by PS Eng. Peter Tum, at Continental House, Parliament Buildings



CLIQUE & CLICKS ▶



Speaker of the National Assembly, Rt. Hon. (Dr.) Moses Wetang'ula (right) receiving His Excellency, President Dr. William Ruto (left) to Parliament. President Ruto addressed a sitting of the East African Legislative Assembly (EALA) held at the Senate Chamber, Main Parliament Building

His Excellency President, Dr. William Ruto (left) shaking hands with Speaker of the East African Legislative Assembly (EALA), Rt. Hon. Joseph Ntakirutimana when the President arrived to address a sitting of the EALA at Parliament Buildings. Looking on are Speaker of the National Assembly, Rt. Hon. (Dr.) Moses Wetang'ula and Speaker of the Senate, Rt. Hon. Amason Kingi



Clerk of the National Assembly, Mr. Samuel Njoroge (centre) pose for a photo with Clerk of the East African Legislative Assembly (EALA), Mr. Alex Obatre (second right) and his team. Mr. Obatre called on Mr. Njoroge on the sidelines of EALA Plenary Sittings that commenced in Nairobi last week

Speaker of the National Assembly, Rt. Hon. (Dr) Moses Wetang'ula (right) leading His Excellency, President Dr. William Ruto (second right) to the VIP lounge where the President signed the visitors' book. On the left is Speaker of the Senate, Rt. Hon. Amason Kingi



BUNGE MASHINANI

Wajir South MP vows to address shortage of teachers in schools



Wajir South MP, Hon Mohammed Adow posing for a photo while issuing a cheque to the administration of the Wajir Teachers Training College

Wajir South MP, Hon. Mohammed Adow recently issued a cheque of Ksh3,080, 000 to the administration of the Wajir Teachers Training College to cover college fees of 40 students for one year.

During the function, Hon. Adow said he had taken this step to ensure more teachers are trained so as to alleviate the shortage of teachers in schools. He appreciated the decision by the trainees to choose teaching as their area of training.

“I thank you all for choosing to train as teachers at a time when there is shortage of teachers in our schools,” Hon. Adow said. Hon. Adow expressed disappointed with the failure of the teachers’ employer, the Teachers Service Commission (TSC), to address the crisis. He assured residents of Wajir South that he will do all within his means to ensure schools in the constituency have enough teachers.

“I will continue to support teachers in this Wajir South to adequately equip our schools with trained teachers.”

Baringo South MP hands over computers to Mochongoi Technical

Baringo South MP, Hon. Charles Kamuren last week handed over 100 computers to Mochogoi Technical Training Institute in Kamaile Sub-location, Mochongoi Ward.

Speaking during the ceremony, the Legislator said that he is devoted to seeing the youth empowered.

“In this digital era, we are committed to empowering our young people with the necessary digital skills and creating digital opportunities through solid grounding in ICT,” said Hon. Kamuren.



Hon Charles Kamuren (in a hat) in the company of Mochongoi area chief and Mochongoi Technical Training Institute Management during the handing over computers to the institution

Kimilili MP issues bursaries to needy students



Kimilili MP, Hon. Didmus Barasa (in a maroon cap) giving out bursary cheques at function held in the constituency

Over 7,000 needy students in Kimilili constituency have received educational bursaries courtesy of the areas MP, Hon. Didmus Barasa.

Hon. Barasa commended the NGCDF kitty, from which the money was drawn saying that the Fund is transformative and has improved the quality of life in local communities.

In addition, Hon. Barasa emphasized value of education, saying education has a role in shaping the future of a community by empowering its youth.

“We are deeply proud to be part of this noble initiative, and we anticipate the positive impact it will have on the lives of these students and the entire Kimilili constituency,” said.

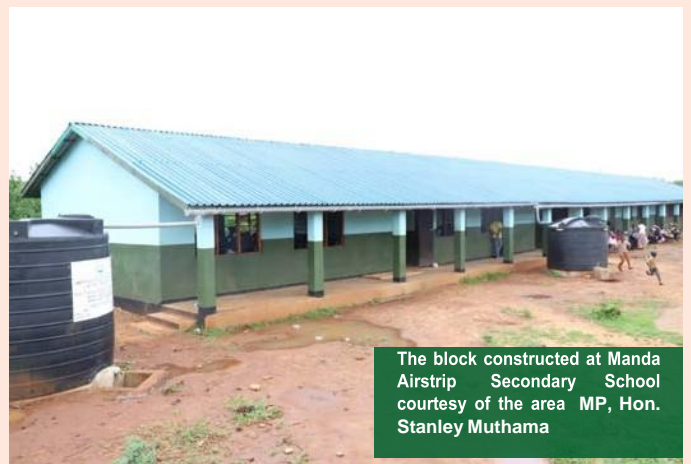
Lamu West MP completes construction at Manda Airport Secondary School

Lamu West MP, Hon. Stanley Muthama completed the construction of administration block and classrooms at Manda Airport Secondary School in Manda Island.

The block consisting of four classrooms, administration block and a twin laboratory were constructed using money from the Lamu West National Government Constituency Development Fund (CDF) kitty.

Hon. Muthama said the construction of the school will enable students who had dropped out of school to resume studies since there the learning environment had improved.

“This initiative will enable students who had dropped out of school to resume their education and ensured 100 percent transition of pupils from primary schools to secondary school,” Hon. Muthama said.



The block constructed at Manda Airstrip Secondary School courtesy of the area MP, Hon. Stanley Muthama



Reports laid on the Table of the House:

Tuesday 5th February, 2024 to Thursday 7th March, 2024.

Tuesday 5th March, 2024 (Afternoon Sitting)

The following reports were laid on the Table of the House on **Tuesday 5th March, 2024 afternoon sitting**;

1. The following Legal Notices from the Ministry of Lands, Public Works, Housing and Urban Development:
 - a. Legal Notice No. 23 of 2023 relating to the Land Adjudication (Amendment) Regulations, 2023 and the Explanatory Memorandum;
 - b. Legal Notice No. 24 of 2023 relating to the Physical and Land Use Planning (Planning Fees) (Amendment) Regulations, 2023 and the Explanatory Memorandum;
 - c. Legal Notice No. 25 of 2023 relating to the Survey (Electronic Cadastre Transactions) (Amendment) Regulations, 2023 and the Explanatory Memorandum;
 - d. Legal Notice No. 26 of 2023 relating to the Valuers (Forms and Fees) (Amendment) Rules, 2023 and the Explanatory Memorandum;
 - e. Legal Notice No. 27 of 2023 relating to the Land (Amendment) Regulations, 2023 and the Explanatory Memorandum;
 - f. Legal Notice No. 28 of 2023 relating to the Community Land (Amendment) Regulations, 2023 and the Explanatory Memorandum;
 - g. Legal Notice No. 29 of 2023 relating to the Survey (Amendment) Regulations, 2023 and the Explanatory Memorandum;
 - h. Legal Notice No. 35 of 2023 relating to the Land Registration (Revocation) (Amendment) Regulations, 2023 and the Explanatory Memorandum; and
 - i. Legal Notice No. 36 of 2023 relating to the Land Registration (General) (Amendment) Regulations, 2023 and the Explanatory Memorandum
2. The Fourth Quarterly report of the Ethics and Anti-Corruption Commission for the year ended 2023 covering the period 1st October, to 31st December, 2023 from the Office of the Attorney-General; Department of Justice;
3. Reports of the Auditor-General and Financial Statements on Criminal Assets Recovery Fund – Assets Recovery Agency for the years ended 30th June, 2019, 30th June, 2020 and 30th June, 2021;
4. Reports of the Auditor-General and Financial Statements for the year ended 30th June, 2023 and the certificates therein in respect of:
 - a. Intergovernmental Relations Technical Committee;
 - b. The Political Parties Fund;
 - c. State Department for Industry;
 - d. State Department for Shipping Maritime Affairs;
 - e. State Department for Housing and Urban Development;
 - f. Receiver of Revenue Statements – State Department for Lands and Physical Planning;
 - g. Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission;
 - h. National Gender and Equality Commission;
 - i. Warehouse Receipt System Council;
 - j. Veterinary Medicines Directorate;
 - k. Kenya Leather Development Council;
 - l. Agriculture and Food Authority;
 - m. National Cereals and Produce Board Staff House Mortgage Fund;
 - n. Universities Fund;
 - o. Jomo Kenyatta Foundation; and
 - p. The Judiciary Fund.

Wednesday 6th March, 2024 (Morning Sitting)

The following reports were laid on the Table of the House on **Wednesday 6th March, 2024 morning sitting**;

1. Report on project proposals approvals, disbursement status and restrictions imposed on constituency account for the Second Quarter of 2023/24 financial year 1 st October 2023 to 31 st December 2023 from the NG-CDF Board;

2. The Annual Report of the Kenya Law Reform Commission;
3. Report of the First Quarter of the National Government Budget Implementation Review for the financial year 2023/24 from the Office of the Controller of Budget;
4. Reports of the Auditor-General and Financial Statements for the year ended 30th June, 2023 and the certificates therein in respect of:
 - a. Kenya Medical Practitioners and Dentists' Council; Inspectorate Service Mortgage Scheme;
 - b. Clinical Officers Council of Kenya; g. Pest Control Products Board;
 - c. National Syndemic Diseases Control Council; h. Mechanical and Transport Fund – State Department for Roads;
 - d. Kenya Medical Training College (KMTC); i. Land Settlement Fund; and
 - e. Kenya Plant Health Inspectorate Service; j. The National Government Affirmative Action Fund (NGAAF).
 - f. Kenya Plant Health

Wednesday 6th March, 2024 (Afternoon Sitting)

The following reports were laid on the Table of the House on **Wednesday 6th March, 2024 afternoon sitting**;

1. Sessional Paper No. 2 of 2018 on National Ethics and Anti-Corruption Policy from the Office of the Attorney General.
2. The Kenya-European Union Economic Partnership Agreement from Ministry of Investments, Trade and Industry.
3. The Kenya-European Union Economic Partnership Agreement from Ministry of Investments, Trade and Industry Treasury.
4. Reports of the Auditor-General and Financial Statements for the years ended 30th June, 2021 and 30th June, 2022 and the certificates therein in respect of:
 - a. Our Lady of Perpetual Succour Girls' Secondary;
 - b. Mosop Mixed Secondary School;
 - c. St. Michael Unyuani Secondary School;
 - d. Kwale Girls High School;
 - e. Mishi Mboko Girls High School;
 - f. Kanyariri High School; and
 - g. The Salvation Army Likoni High School for the Visually Impaired.
5. The Annual National Government Budget Implementation Review Report for the financial year 2022/23 from the Office of the Controller of Budget.

Thursday 7th March, 2024 (Afternoon Sitting)

The following reports were laid on the Table of the House on **Thursday 7th March, 2024 afternoon sitting**;

Reports of the Auditor-General and Financial Statements for the year ended 30th June, 2023 and the certificates therein in respect of:

1. State Corporations Appeal Tribunal;
2. Policyholders Compensation Fund;
3. Policyholders Compensation Fund Car and Mortgage Loan Scheme;
4. Retirement Benefits Authority;
5. Kenya Trade Network Agency;
6. Registration of Certified Public Secretaries Board;
7. Kenya Water Towers Agency;
8. Tourism Fund;
9. State House Mortgage and Car Loan Scheme – Unclaimed Financial Assets Authority;
10. Witness Protection Agency Staff Motor Car Loan Scheme Fund; and
11. State Department for Youth Affairs



REPUBLIC OF KENYA
THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
THIRTEENTH PARLIAMENT—THIRD SESSION (2024)
IN THE MATTER OF ARTICLE 118 (1)(b) OF THE CONSTITUTION
AND

IN THE MATTER OF CONSIDERATION BY THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF THE
COUNTY LICENSING (UNIFORM PROCEDURES), 2022 (SENATE BILLS NO. 9 OF 2022)

NOTIFICATION OF AN INVITATION TO PUBLIC HEARINGS

WHEREAS, Article 118(1) (b) of the Constitution requires Parliament to facilitate public participation and involvement in the legislative and other business of Parliament and its Committees, and Standing Order 127(3) of the National Assembly Standing Orders requires House Committees considering Bills to facilitate public participation;

AND WHEREAS the County Licensing (Uniform Procedures), 2022 (Senate Bills No. 9 of 2022) was read a First Time on **Wednesday 28th February 2023** and committed to the Departmental Committee on Trade Industry and Cooperatives for consideration and reporting to the House;

IT IS NOTIFIED that:

The County Licensing (Uniform Procedures), 2022 (Senate Bills No. 9 of 2022) sponsored by Senator. Omar Mariam Sheikh, MP seeks to provide for a national legislative framework for uniform procedures for the licensing of various activities by county governments. Further, the bill will ensure certainty in the licensing processes in all counties and encourage private sector players to do business in the counties.

NOW THEREFORE, in compliance with Article 118(1) (b) of the Constitution and Standing Order 127(3), the Clerk of the National Assembly hereby invites the public and stakeholders to submit memoranda on the Bill to the Departmental Committee on Trade Industry and Cooperatives

Copy of the Bill are available at the National Assembly Table Office, Main Parliament Buildings and on www.parliament.go.ke/the-national-assembly/house-business/bills.

S. NJOROGE, CBS
CLERK OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
6th February, 2024

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A PUBLICATION OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

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KENYA LITERATURE BUREAU
Publishers and Printers